

Message Text

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61

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 IO-11 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /121 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8602

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

IRDA GERMANTOWN

IAEA VIENNA 2835

USMISSION NATO

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USUN NEW YORK 2752

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1758

DISTO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM CCD

SUBJECT: WESTERN GROUP MEETING MARCH 8, 1976

1. CCD WESTERN GROUP MET MARCH 8 AT DUTCH AND UK REQUEST TO DISCUSS ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS BEFORE COMMITTEE. MAIN TOPICS OF MEETING WERE ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR 1976 (INCLUDING MEXICAN PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE), TIMING OF INFORMAL MEETINGS ON CCD PROCEDURES, PREPARATION OF CCD REPORT, AND CO-CHAIRMANSHIP. IN ADDITION, CONFIDENTIAL

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SCHLAICH (FRG) SAID APPROACH TO FRG EMBASSY IN MOSCOW

SUGGESTED SOVIETS MAY PRESS TREATY ON NON-USE OF FORCE AT NEXT UNGA.

2. ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR 1976. SEVERAL PARTICIPANTS NOTED THAT COMMITTEE WAS ALREADY CONSIDERING SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOST ITEMS REFERRED TO IT BY UNGA, INCLUDING INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS ON CTB AND ON NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, AS WELL AS DUTCH SUGGESTION OF INFORMAL MEETINGS FOR ARTICLE-BY-ARTICLE CONSIDERATION OF US-SOVIET DRAFT ENMOD CONVENTION. IN ADDITION, INFORMAL MEETINGS TO CARRY OUR PROCEDURAL REVIEW HAD ALREADY BEGUN. SCHLAICH SAID FRG WAS CONSIDERING SUGGESTING INFORMAL MEETINGS WITH EXPERTS DURING SUMMER SESSION TO REVIEW WORKING PAPERS ON CW SUBMITTED TO COMMITTEE IN 1975. NOTING THAT THIS WOULD LEAVE ONLY THE QUESTION OF MID-TERM REVIEW OF DISARMAMENT DECADE AMONG UNGA TOPICS NOT RECEIVING SPECIFIC ATTENTION THIS YEAR, MARTIN (US) SUGGESTED THAT NON-ALIGNED MIGHT BE SATISFIED WITH DECISION TO DEVOTE ONE OR TWO PLENARY SESSIONS TO THAT SUBJECT.

3. ALL PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED NEGATIVE VIEWS CONCERNING MEXICAL PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, CALLING SUCH A SUBCOMMITTEE BOTH UNNECESSARY (IN VIEW OF ALL THE PROSPECTIVE INFORMAL MEETINGS) AND POTENTIALLY TROUBLESOME. BARTON (CANADA) WAS ESPECIALLY NEGATIVE, SAYING ANY STANDING SUBCOMMITTEE WOULD BE FULL OF BOOBY TRAPS. SEVERAL THOUGHT SOME FACE SAVING ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SATISFY PROPONENTS OF SUBCOMMITTEE. SCHLAICH, DIBERNARDO (ITALY), AND OGISO (JAPAN) THOUGHT CCD COULD AGREE TO HOLD INFORMAL MEETINGS DEVOTED TO SPECIFIC TOPICS AS NEED AROSE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. HOWEVER, THEY OPPOSED IDEA OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED INFORMAL MEETINGS OR SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. MARTIN SUGGESTED THAT COMMITTEE COULD AGREE TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKING GROUP DURING SUMMER SESSION AS FORUM FOR DETAILED TEXTUAL NEGOTIATIONS ON ENMOD CONVENTION.

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4. TIMING OF MEETINGS ON CCD PROCEDURES. DIBERNARDO AND ALLEN (UK) CONSIDERED IT DESIRABLE FOR COMMITTEE TO REACH DECISIONS ON AT LEAST SOME PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS BEFORE END OF SPRING SESSION, IN ORDER TO SHOW JUNE MEETING OF AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ROLE OF UN IN DISARMAMENT THAT CCD WAS TAKING DEFINITE STEPS IN RE-EXAMINING ITS OWN WORK. MARTIN EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT COMMITTEE COULD REACH AGREEMENT ON OVER-ALL

PROCEDURAL PACKAGE BEFORE END OF SUMMER SESSION,
PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DIFFERENCES OVER CO-CHAIRMANSHIP.
HE REITERATED IMPORTANCE TO US OF BASING
AGREEMENT TO ANY CHANGES ON ACCEPTABILITY OF WHOLE
PACKAGE.

5. CCD REPORT. ALL PARTICIPANTS FAVORED GIVING
SECRETARIAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR FIRST DRAFT OF CCD
REPORT TO UNGA. MARTIN SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO AGREE
AT NEXT INFORMAL MEETING TO IDEA OF SECRETARIAT PREPARING
FIRST DRAFT OF PURELY FACTUAL CONTENT OF REPORT,
ALTHOUGH FINAL US ACCEPTANCE OF ANY CHANGES IN REPORT'S
CONTENTS WOULD BE IN CONTEXT OF APPROVAL OF OVER-ALL
PROCEDURAL PACKAGE. OGISO, DIBERNARDO, SCHLAICH, AND
MARTIN AGREED THAT REPORT SHOULD NOT BE MADE CONTENTIOUS
AND TIME-CONSUMING EXERCISE BY ATTEMPTING TO INCLUDE
EXTENSIVE ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS IN IT.

6. CO-CHAIRMANSHIP. MARTIN REITERATED THAT US HAD MADE
NO DECISION TO GIVE UP CO-CHAIRMANSHIP AND NOTED THAT
SOVIETS WERE TAKING VERY CONSERVATIVE POSITION. BARTON
SAID CANADA WOULD TAKE POSITION THAT DEBATE OVER CO-CHAIRMANSHIP
WOULD BE HARMFUL TO COMMITTEE UNDER PRESENT
CIRCUMSTANCES. HE DID NOT SEE DISIRABILITY OF CHANGE
UNLESS THERE WERE REAL PROSPECTS OF FRENCH (AND CHINESE)
PARTICIPATION. OGISO SAID CO-CHAIRMANSHIP SHOULD BE
CONSIDERED IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBILITY OF ENCOURAGING
FRANCE TO TAKE ITS SEAT.

7. AT END OF MEETING, SCHLAICH SAID THAT MFA INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS DIRECTOR ISSRAELIAN HAD APPROACHED
FRG AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW SEEKING SUPPORT FOR CONVENTION
ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE OF FORCE. ISSRAELIAN'S
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COMMENTS LED FRG TO BELIEVE SOVIETS PLAN
TO CALL FOR SUCH A CONVENTION, EVIDENTLY BASED ON
THEIR 1972 UNGA PROPOSAL, AS THEIR ANNUAL DISARMAMENT
INITIATIVE AT UNGA NEXT FALL. DALE

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